

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests further examination and consideration in view of the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-29 were previously pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-29 have been rejected. By the above amendment, Claims 1, 7, 13, 20 and 26 have been amended, Claims 2-4, 8-10, 14-16, 19, 21-23 and 27-29 have been canceled and Claims 30-42 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 1, 5-7, 11-13, 17, 18, 20, 24-26 and 30-42 are currently pending.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the published European Patent Application No. EP 0 812 092 A2 to Makoto Sato et al. (hereinafter "Sato").

Sato teaches a method and system for controlling the communication of electronic equipment. Sato teaches a controlling device transmitting a notify command to a target device, receiving an interim response from the target device and transmitting a notify (cancel) command. [Sato, Abstract] Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. Sato also does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a duplicate of the pending notify command sent while the pending notify command is pending.

In contrast to the teachings of Sato, the method and apparatus for cancelling a pending notify command includes a mechanism which allows a controlling device to cancel a pending notify command by sending a status command or a duplicate notify command while the pending notify command is still pending. A target device which receives a notify command from a controlling device, first sends an interim response to the controlling device. When the state of the target device changes, the target device then sends a notify response to the controlling device. Before the state of the target device changes, while the notify command is pending, if the target device receives the cancelling command, the target device then cancels the pending notify command. In one embodiment, the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. In another embodiment, the

cancelling command is a duplicate of the pending notify command sent while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a duplicate of the pending notify command sent while the pending notify command is pending.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to a method of cancelling a pending notify command at a target device. The method of Claim 1 comprises sending a cancelling command over a network from a controlling device to the target device, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending and cancelling the pending notify command at the target device when the cancelling command is received while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Sato.

Claims 2-4 have been canceled by the above amendment. Claims 5 and 6 are dependent upon the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Sato. Accordingly, Claims 5 and 6 are both also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 7 is directed to a target device for communicating with a controlling device over a network. The target device of Claim 7 comprises means for communicating with the controlling device over the network, the means for communicating including ability to receive a notify command from the controlling device, issue an interim response to the notify command to the controlling device and receive a cancelling command from the controlling device, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending and means for cancelling coupled to the means for communicating for cancelling a pending notify command if a cancelling command is received from the controlling device while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 7 is allowable over the teachings of Sato.

Claims 8-10 have been canceled by the above amendment. Claims 11 and 12 are dependent upon the independent Claim 7. As discussed above, the independent Claim 7 is allowable over the teachings of Sato. Accordingly, Claims 11 and 12 are both also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 13 is directed to a target device configured to communicate with a controlling device over a network. The target device comprises an interface circuit configured to communicate with the controlling device over the network, the interface circuit including ability to receive a notify command from the controlling device, issue an interim response to the notify command and receive a cancelling command from the controlling device, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending and a control circuit coupled to the interface circuit to cancel a pending notify command if a cancelling command is received from the controlling device while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 13 is allowable over the teachings of Sato.

Claims 14-16 have been canceled by the above amendment. Claims 17 and 18 are dependent upon the independent Claim 13. As discussed above, the independent Claim 13 is allowable over the teachings of Sato. Accordingly, Claims 17 and 18 are both also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Claim 19 has been canceled by the above amendment.

The independent Claim 20 is directed to a network of devices coupled together comprising a controlling device configured to send a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending and a target device including an interface circuit configured to communicate with the controlling device to receive the cancelling command from the controlling device and a control circuit coupled to the interface circuit to cancel a pending notify command if the cancelling command is received from the controlling device while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 20 is allowable over the teachings of Sato.

Claims 21-23 have been canceled by the above amendment. Claims 24 and 25 are dependent upon the independent Claim 20. As discussed above, the independent Claim 20 is allowable over the teachings of Sato. Accordingly, Claims 24 and 25 are both also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 26 is directed to a network of devices coupled together by a standard IEEE 1394 serial bus comprising a controlling device in communication with the standard IEEE 1394 serial bus and configured for sending a cancelling command over the standard IEEE 1394 serial bus, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending and a target device in communication with the standard IEEE 1394 serial bus and configured for receiving the cancelling command and cancelling a pending notify command if the cancelling command is received while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a status command sent while the pending notify command is pending. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 26 is allowable over the teachings of Sato.

Claims 27-29 have been canceled by the above amendment.

By the above amendment, new Claims 30-42 have been added. Each of the new claims 30-42 includes a limitation specifying that the cancelling command is a duplicate of the pending notify command sent while the pending notify command is pending. As discussed above, Sato does not teach sending a cancelling command to cancel a pending notify command, wherein the cancelling command is a duplicate of the pending notify command sent while the pending notify command is pending. For at least these reasons, the new Claims 30-42 are all allowable over the teachings of Sato.

For the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending Claims are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: August 27, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

Date: 8-27-04 By: [Signature]